(c) the action taken to negotiate in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The All India News Paper Employees Federation (AINPEF) have recently submitted a copy of the Charter of Demands which they served on the employers' organizations *viz.* Indian Newspapers Society and the Indian Languages Newspapers Association. The Charter of Demands includes revision of wages *w.e.f.* 1st January 2003, fitment, new groupings. DA, HRA, CCA, night shift allowance, transport allowance, LTC, medical allowance, pension, etc. for working journalists and non-journalists in the newspaper industry.

(c) The Manisana Wage Boards set up by the Government on 2.9.1994 under the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 submitted their recommendations on 25.7.2000. The Government accepted these recommendations with slight modifications and notified them *vide* Orders dated 5.12.2000 and 15.12.2000. Since the recommendations of the Manisana Wage Boards have been accepted recently these would remain in force until the Award of the next Wage Board. The constitution of the next Wage Board is, therefore, not a point for action for the present.

As regard the Charter of Demands, the AINPEF may approach the appropriate Government (*i.e.* State Government under the said Act) for mediation if the parties fail to settle the matter.

Procedure for commissioned programmes by DD

1169. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for accepting the proposals for Commissioned Programmes by Doordarshan Centres;

(b) the number of proposals received since March, 2000 by Doordarshan Centres in Himachal Pradesh and how many of them have been accepted;

(c) the fate of the rest of the proposals; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that as per Guidelines prescribed for Commissioned Programmes, proposals received from outside producers under commissioned category by Doordarshan Centres are first evaluated by an Evaluation Committee consisting of senior officials of Doordarshan and outside experts from various fields. Thereafter, shortlisted proposals are put up to the Costing Committee for final decision.

(b) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that 61 proposals for Commissioned Programmes have been received by Doordarshan Kendra, Shimla, against the advertisement, with a cut off date of 09/12/2002, for the Financial year 2002-03. These are being evaluated by Doordarshan.

FDI limits for DTH Services

1170. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government have fixed any FDI limits in relation to Direct-to-Home (DTH) Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reconsider FDI limits in relation to Print Media, DTH Services and News-uplinking; and

(d) whether it is also proposed to put in place a regulatory system to ensure a license for DTH Services is granted to a foreign company which keeps an Indian company as a dummy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a)and (b) As per guidelines issued on 15.3.2001, total foreign investment including FDI/NRI/OCB/FII in DTH broadcasting shall not exceed 49% within which the FDI component shall not exceed 20%.

(c)There is no proposal presently to reconsider the FDI limits in Print Media and DTH service. A proposal to review the present uplinking